

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for ~~remotely~~ interoperably training a machine vision tool remotely via a network, the method comprising:

selecting, via a user interface running on a local computing platform connected to the network, a machine vision tool on a remote computing platform accessible via the network;

selecting, via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, machine vision tool training parameter information to be used for training the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network, including:

selecting, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, an image acquiring device to acquire an image of an object, the image acquiring device being connected to an image communications device on a second remote computing platform accessible via the network;

acquiring the image using the image acquiring device and sending the image to the image communications device;

sending the image via the network from the image communications device to the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform connected to the network;

 sending the image via the network from the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform to the local computing platform running the user interface;

 displaying the image on a display device of the local computing platform connected to the network; and

 selecting a region of interest of the image via the user interface presented by the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network;

 sending, via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, the selected machine vision tool training parameter information to the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform; and

 commanding, via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, the remote computing platform to train the machine vision tool using the selected machine vision tool training parameter information,

 whereby the machine vision tool has been interoperably trained remotely via the network.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting of the machine vision tool training parameter information includes entering training parameters.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, an image communications device on a second remote computing platform accessible via the network;

commanding, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, an image acquiring device connected to the image communications device to acquire an image, and to send the image via the network to the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the remote computing platform and the local computing platform are a same device.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method for ~~remotely~~ interoperably training a machine vision tool remotely via a network, the method comprising:

selecting a machine vision tool on a remote computing platform accessible via the network via a user interface running on a local computing platform connected to the network;

entering, via the user interface running on a local computing platform connected to the network, machine vision tool training parameter information to be used for training the machine vision tool, the machine vision tool training parameter information including an outline drawn on a screen of a video display device using a pointing device;

sending the machine vision tool training parameter information to the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network; and

commanding the machine vision tool, via the user interface running on a local computing platform connected to the network, to use the machine vision tool training parameter information;

producing, via the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network, a trained model based on the machine vision tool training parameter information; and

storing the trained model,

thereby interoperably training the machine vision tool remotely via the network.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 4 7, wherein ~~selecting~~
entering the machine vision tool training parameter information comprises:

entering, via the user interface running on the local computing platform
connected to the network, an indicator of a file including the machine vision tool
training parameter information; and

sending the file to the machine vision tool on the remote computing
platform accessible via the network.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the file is a DXF file and the
training information is AutoCAD data.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 44 7, wherein the trained
model is stored in a storage device associated with the local computing platform
connected to the network.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 44 7, wherein the trained
image is stored in a storage device on the machine vision tool on the remote
computing platform accessible via the network.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method of claim 9, further comprising:

producing, via the machine vision tool, a trained model based on the machine vision tool training parameter information; and
storing the trained model.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of claim 14, wherein the trained model is stored in a storage device associated with the local computing platform connected to the network.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of claim 14, wherein the trained model is stored in a storage device associated with the remote computing platform accessible via the network.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising entering at least one parameter, via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, to send to the remote computing platform before commanding, via the user interface, the remote computing platform to run the machine vision tool.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, further comprising:
periodically receiving, on the local computing platform including the user interface, an updated image originating from the image acquiring device; and

displaying the updated image via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network to produce a live display of the image.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method for ~~remotely~~ interoperably running a machine vision tool remotely via a network, the method comprising:

interoperably selecting via the network, using a user interface running on a local computing platform connected to the network, parameters for running a machine vision tool on a remote computing platform accessible via the network;

interoperably selecting via the network, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, a machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network;

causing, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform to be executed, the machine vision tool using the selected parameters;
and

sending results of the executed machine vision tool to the local computing platform connected to the network; and

displaying, using a display device associated with the local computing platform connected to the network, the results of the machine vision tool, the displaying being performed via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network.

whereby the machine vision tool has been interoperably run remotely via the network.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 19, wherein the parameters specify one of an image acquired by an image acquiring device and a file in a database.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of claim 19, wherein the parameters are received from a location selected via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of claim 19, further comprising:
entering, using the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, at least one parameter to be passed via the network to the remote computing platform including the machine vision tool; and
passing the at least one parameter to the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network.

Claim 24 (currently amended): An apparatus for remotely interoperably running a machine vision tool remotely via a network, the apparatus comprising:

a remote computing platform accessible via the network, the remote computing platform including a machine vision tool, the remote computing

platform being configured to communicate via the network with a local computing platform including a user interface running on the local computing platform that is connected to the network, the remote computing platform further including:

_____ a receiving portion to receive an identifier of the machine vision tool from the user interface running on the local computing platform;

_____ a presentation portion to prepare at least one presentation display to send to the user interface on the local computing platform connected to the network, the at least one presentation display being based on results of executing the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform accessible via the network;

and

_____ a sending portion to send the at least one presentation display to the user interface running on the local computing platform via the network,

_____ whereby the machine vision tool is capable of interoperably running remotely via the network.

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 25 24, wherein the presentation portion is configured to receive output from the machine vision tool and to place the output in a form of the at least one presentation display to display via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 26, wherein:

the presentation portion is configured to produce the at least one presentation display including commands for displaying the at least one presentation display via the user interface on the local computing platform connected to the network.

Claim 28 (original): The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the commands for displaying the at least one presentation display include one of HTML and XML.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the commands for displaying the at least one presentation display include a program to be executed by the local computing platform connected to the network.

Claim 30 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the program is a Java applet.

Claim 31 (original): The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the commands include Java script.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A machine-readable medium encoded with a program for a remote computing platform interoperably connected to a network, the remote computing platform including a machine vision tool, said program comprising:

preparing at least one presentation display to send via the network to a local computing platform including a user interface running on the local computing platform;

receiving via the network an identifier of the machine vision tool from the local computing platform including the user interface; and

using the identifier received via the network, running the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform connected to the network;

receiving output from the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform connected to the network, and placing the output in a form of the at least one presentation display for displaying via the user interface on the local computing platform accessible via the network; and

sending via the network the at least one presentation display, including the output of the machine vision tool on the remote computing platform, to the local computing platform including the user interface.

whereby the machine vision tool is remotely interoperable via the network.

Claim 33 (canceled)

Claim 34 (previously presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the prepared at least one presentation display includes commands for displaying the at least one presentation display using the user interface on the local computing platform accessible via the network.

Claim 35 (original): The machine-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the commands for displaying the at least one presentation display include one of HTML commands and XML commands.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the commands for displaying the at least one presentation display include a program to be executed by the user interface on the local computing platform accessible via the network.

Claim 37 (original): The machine-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the program is a Java applet.

Claim 38 (original): The machine-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the commands include Java script.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
selecting, via the user interface running on the local computing platform connected to the network, one of a plurality of devices, each having at least one machine vision tool.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the local computing platform and the remote computing platform are located remotely from each other, and are each connected to the network.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 3, wherein the image communications device is separate from the local computing platform and the remote computing platform, and is connected to the network.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of claim 40, wherein the local computing platform and the remote computing platform are connected via at least one of a local area network, a wide area network, and an internet.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of claim 42, wherein the local computing platform and the remote computing platform are in different buildings.

Claim 44 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a web browser.

Claim 45 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a thin client.

Claim 46 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a network user interface adapted to provide navigation via hyperlinks.

Claim 47 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the user interface includes a web browser.

Claim 48 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the user interface includes a thin client.

Claim 49 (new): The method of claim 7, wherein the user interface includes a network user interface adapted to provide navigation via hyperlinks.

Claim 50 (new): The method of claim 19, wherein the user interface includes a web browser.

Claim 51 (new): The method of claim 19, wherein the user interface includes a thin client.

Claim 52 (new): The method of claim 19, wherein the user interface includes a network user interface adapted to provide navigation via hyperlinks.

Claim 53 (new): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the user interface includes a web browser.

Claim 54 (new): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the user interface includes a thin client.

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Claim 55 (new): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the user interface includes a network user interface adapted to provide navigation via hyperlinks.

Claim 56 (new): The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user interface includes a web browser.

Claim 57 (new): The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user interface includes a thin client.

Claim 58 (new): The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the user interface includes a network user interface adapted to provide navigation via hyperlinks.